

January 3, 2012

TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 6	January 11	January 12-13	January 16	January 17-20
Alumni Event	Second Quarter Ends	Exam Review Days	Martin Luther King Day No School	Midyear Exams

Join us for Common Hour Tomorrow!



On **Wednesday, January 4th at 9:40 a.m.** Vermont Commons will welcome Out of the Blue, an a capella singing group from Yale University to our school. They will entertain our students, faculty, and staff with a variety of tunes from artists including Steve Winwood, Guster and Lady Gaga. All members of our community are invited to join us for this very special event.

Trips Hot Lunches—Still Available for January



Don't forget to sign up for this month's hot lunches! This is an easy way to support the trips program. Please log onto ParentsWeb to sign up for the following lunches:

Wed. 1/4: Black Beans Cubano with rice, salad and dessert

Fri. 1/6: Pizza Day

Mon. 1/9: Hot Dogs, chips and fruit

Wed. 1/11: Cheese Lasagna

Fri. 1/13: Pizza Day

Wed. 1/18: Vegetarian Chili, cornbread, clementines and cookies

After ordering, please send in (or drop off) a check for the amount owed to the main office. If you have a question regarding last month's bill or have any technical issues with ordering, please contact Liz Breslend.

Upcoming Exam Schedule 1/17-1/20



Monday 1/16—No School, MLK Day

Tuesday 1/17—Science Exam 9-11 AM, World Language 12-2 PM

Wednesday 1/18—Math Exam 9-11 AM, Social Studies 12-2 PM

Thursday 1/19—Language Arts Exam 9-11 AM, Noon Dismissal

Friday 1/20—Make up Exam 9-11 AM, No School Otherwise

Board Corner – Meet Board Member, Lisa Fargo



My husband Matt and I were introduced to Vermont Commons School by a friend in the spring of 1999. We enrolled our daughter Taylor into the 7th grade that fall. Our son Griffen enrolled as a 7th grader and graduated in 2008 (golden turtle). I began serving on the VCS Board of Trustees after Griff graduated.

There are two forces that motivate me to serve on the board at VCS, first and foremost I serve out of gratitude and appreciation for the quality of the education and opportunities our children experienced while attending VCS. I also serve because I believe there should be more educational options available to children and their families. Our family will forever be thankful to Bob Skiff for his vision in creating a different kind of school...a school that values the development of the whole child, engaging children on all levels of personal development inside as well as outside the classroom. VCS has the "thrive" factor...our kids thrived during their years at VCS.

VCS has a talented and dynamic team of individuals who comprise the Board of Trustees. Serving on the VCS Board has been and continues to be a privilege. I am personally and professionally inspired and challenged in my work on the Board.

I am a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee which assists and advises the Board on issues relating to the preservation of the physical integrity and aesthetic quality of our building and grounds. And I chair the Committee on Trustees which ensures the long-term success and viability of the school by focusing its efforts on building the professional composition of the board. Each year the execution of our long term strategic plan guides us in our trustee recruitment efforts. We are always on the lookout for individuals who would like to step up their involvement with the school. Should you like to become more involved in the leadership efforts of the school please make Peter Gilmore or someone on the board aware of your interest.

My professional background before children and before life in Vermont was in sales and marketing. Once we moved to Vermont and our children were in school, my professional efforts became more in line with my personal interest and hobbies. My hometown is Westford Vermont and in Westford I have had the opportunity to apprentice with Craig Helfrich a very talented carpenter and cabinet maker, I have been an apprentice bread maker to Westfords own Gerard Rubaud (Gerards Breads) and all along I have continued to hone my skills as a wiring wench and office staff for our family Telecom business. I am fortunate to be surrounded by talented enterprising individuals who have always given me the opportunity to discover new interests and develop new skills. Every day is different and every day is a new challenge.

A Second Chance to see the Choral Concert! –by Gabe Mantegna

Thanks to the VCS Chorus for a great concert. Fortunately, I have it on tape so those who missed it can have a chance to see it. If you would like a copy of the concert video, I can share it with you on YouTube (it is a full length private video-- I have to share it with individual people) or I can burn you a hard copy on a DVD if you need. Just email me at gmantegna@vermontcommons.org if you want a copy in either format. Thanks!



This Week in Photos



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